

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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ECONOMIC SURVEYS

Maryland farmers will have the opportunity to “let their voice be heard” by participating in the upcoming 2003 agricultural economic survey. This survey, titled the 2003 Agricultural Resource Management Study (ARMS), provides vital statistics about the economic condition of production agriculture. This survey will help provide a current picture of agricultural production and gives farmers a strong voice for their financial future. Producers chosen to participate in the survey will be visited by an interviewer to complete the report at the farm operator’s convenience. Results will be



published in a series of reports on the current farm financial situation, available in July. Results of last year’s survey can be found on the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service website at www.nass.usda.gov/md/ or by calling 1-800-675-0295.

SURVEY BENEFITS

- ▶ Only source of data to compile estimates of net income for the farm sector as well as for inclusion in estimates of Gross Domestic Product & Gross State Product. Data are used to compare the farm sector income to those in other sectors of the economy.
- ▶ Farmers and their organizations need reliable data showing the current economic conditions on farms in their sector.
- ▶ Survey results help determine disaster relief and direct payment funding.
- ▶ Without these facts, credit providers have very limited information and take conservative financial positions.
- ▶ Survey results provide a financial benchmark for other government and decision-making organizations. Federal programs, legislation, and impact studies would struggle under great uncertainty without these facts.

2003 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SURVEY INTERVIEWERS

Kay Spinnato	Jacqui England	Grayson Bowers	Jerry Shaw	Nola Ramsburg	P.A. Keating
Wicomico	Cecil	Baltimore	Anne Arundel	Frederick	Kent
Worcester	Harford	Carroll	Calvert	Carolyn Ganoe	Queen Anne’s
Patricia Low	Judy Koliopulos	Richard Frounfelter	Charles	Allegany	Melanie Morford
Dorchester	Washington	Howard	Prince George’s	Garrett	Caroline
Talbot		Montgomery	St. Mary’s		
Wicomico					

FRUIT PRODUCTION

Maryland fruit growers produced 40 million pounds of apples in 2003, 25 percent more than the 32 million pounds produced in 2002. Utilized production totaled 38.4 million pounds, 20 percent above 2002's 31.9 million pounds. The season average price for utilized production was 15.7 cents per pound, up from 14.3 cents per pound in 2002. The value of Maryland's utilized production for 2003 was \$6.0 million compared with \$4.5 million in 2002. Maryland peach growers produced 8.5 million pounds of peaches in 2003, up 21 percent from 2002. The season average price for the 2003 peach crop was 47.3 cents per pound compared with 39.2 cents for the value of the utilized production totaled \$4.0 million, up 47 percent from the \$2.7 million for 2002.

United States utilized apple production for 2003 is estimated at 8.90 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the 2002 level. Utilized production for Michigan and New York increased 86 percent and 84 percent, respectively, while Washington's utilized production decreased 12 percent compared to the 2002 crop. In Washington, poor weather during pollination led to spotty bloom in some orchards. In Michigan and New York, excellent growing conditions allowed production to rebound from the short 2002 crop. Improved growing conditions in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia increased utilized production from the 2002 weather reduced crops.

MARYLAND AND UNITED STATES FRUIT PRODUCTION AND VALUE								
	Total Production		Utilized Production		Season Average Price		Value of Utilized Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Million /LBS				Cents/LBS		Thousand \$	
APPLES								
Maryland	32.0	40.0	31.9	38.4	14.3	15.7	4,549	6,012
United States	8,525.4	9,014.6	8,375.0	8,897.5	18.8	19.4	1,572,202	1,729,949
PEACHES								
Maryland	7.0	8.5	7.0	8.5	39.2	47.3	2,741	4,024
United States	2,574.9	2,523.1	2,471.5	2,413.8	20.4	19.3	503,827	466,681

MILK PRODUCTION

Maryland dairy operators produced 308 million pounds of milk during the October-December quarter, down 6 percent from the same quarter a year earlier. The average number of milk cows were estimated at 77,000 head for the quarter, 3,000 fewer than a year earlier. Average milk production per cow at 4,000 pounds decreased 88 pounds from a year earlier. The quarterly

production of milk for the U.S. was 41.3 billion pounds, down 0.6 percent from the October-December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the October-December quarter was 9.01 million head, 141,000 head less than the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Milk Production October - December Quarter 2002 and 2003							
STATE	MILK COWS ¹		MILK PER COW ²		MILK PRODUCTION ²		2003/2002 Percent
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Maryland	80	77	4,088	4,000	327	308	94
United States	9,148	9,007	4,543	4,588	41,555	41,322	99

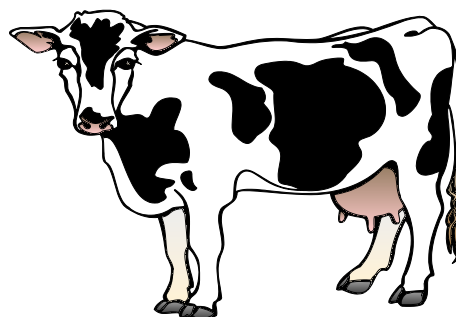
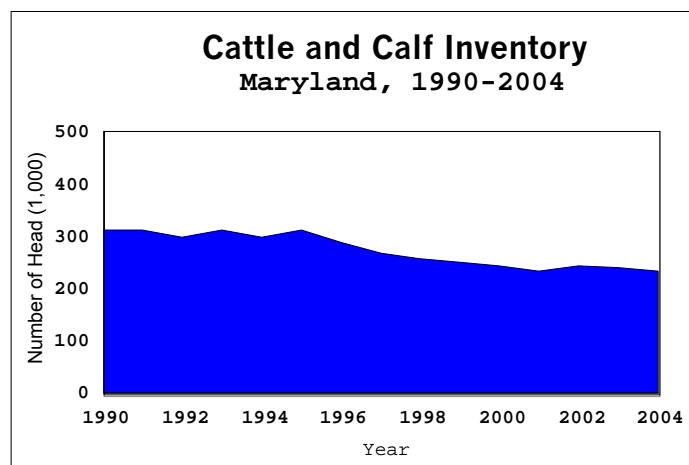
¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

CATTLE INVENTORY

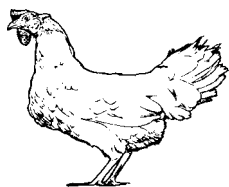
Maryland: The January 1, 2004 number of all cattle and calves on Maryland farms at 235,000 head was 2. percent below January 2003. The number of cows being milked declined 3,000 head while dairy replacement heifers decreased 2,000 over last year. Beef cows increased 1,000 head from the previous year to 42,000 head. Beef replacement heifers were 1,000 head below 2003. Number of calves on farms on January 1, 2004 was at 42,000, up 5 percent from 2003.

United States: All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003. Beef cows, at 32.86 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003. Milk cows, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003. Beef replacement heifers, 5.52 million, down 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.2 million, down 2 percent.



	Maryland		United States	
	CATTLE AND CALVES		CATTLE AND CALVES	
Class	Jan 1, 2003	Jan 1, 2004	Jan 1, 2003	Jan 1, 2004
	-----Thousand-----			
Cattle and Calves (Total)	240	235	96,106	94,882
Cows and Heifers that have calved	121	119	42,125	41,851
Beef Cows	41	42	32,983	32,860
Milk cows	80	77	9,142	8,991
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	52	50	19,628	19,341
For Beef Cow Replacement	11	10	5,624	5,517
For Milk Cow Replacement	32	30	4,114	4,020
Other Heifers	9	10	9,891	9,804
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	23	20	16,554	16,280
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	4	4	2,248	2,206
Calves Under 500 Pounds	40	42	15,545	15,204

CHICKENS AND EGGS



Maryland laying flocks produced 73 million eggs during December 2003, of which 71 million were table eggs and 2 million were hatching eggs. The average number of layers on hand during December 2003 was 338,525. On January 1, 2004, 2.5% of the layers in Maryland were being molted and 18.5% of all layers had been through a molt.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.53 billion during December 2003, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.48 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 995 million were broiler-type and 61 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2003 averaged 339 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,225 eggs, up 2 percent from December 2002.

Eggs and Layers: December 2002-2003			
Item	2002	2003	2003/2002
Eggs Produced During December	<i>-----Million-----</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Maryland	82	73	89
U.S.	7,451	7,531	101
Layers, Average Number During December	<i>-----Thousand-----</i>		
Maryland	3,346	3,011	90
U.S.	340,316	338,525	99
Eggs / 100 Layers During December	<i>-----Number-----</i>		
Maryland	2,430	2,435	100
U.S.	2,189	2,225	102

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT NORMAN BENNETT, STATE STATISTICIAN AT (410)-841-5740
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